

## EDITORIAL

The variety of authors for this issue reflects what was hoped for when the Journal was renamed and relaunched, namely a mixture of articles done from different perspectives. The IJMHCL is, naturally, a legal journal: hence the word “Law” at the end of the title. But that law operates in a field that is necessarily multi-disciplinary – involving medical, nursing, psychology and social work professionals, supplemented by many others, from paramedics to occupational therapists. In addition, it involves interactions with multiple other areas of law and policy, including policing, criminal justice and prisons. Moreover, the operation of the law can be studied from many perspectives, including the vital voice of those who have experience of being “treated” by the system.

The three articles in this issue do not represent all the parameters of interest to the Journal, but have been put together from a *mélange* of perspectives. The first article is by academics in law and medical ethics and discusses the question of research participation by persons with disabilities; the second is written from a nursing perspective and reviews the question of the right of access to the outside during confinement in a psychiatric setting; and the third is an audit of medical practice in assessing capacity. Completing the issue are a case note and two book reviews have been produced by an author who combines being a legal practitioner, trainer and academic. There is interaction with the human rights framework in most of the pieces, most particularly the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2006 and the European Convention on Human Rights 1950.

This issue has involved significant collaboration: various people have taken editorial roles in relation to the various articles; in addition, we have the important contribution of our peer reviewers. Most importantly, we have people willing to put in the effort to write pieces that we can consider and, if all goes well, publish in our free-to-access journal, hoping to assist the debate in the important area we cover. I hope you find some value from the effort that many have put in to the production of this issue.

Kris Gledhill